

Message Text

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ORIGIN SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SR-02 ORM-01 IO-10 SCS-03 EA-06

AID-05 PER-01 OPR-02 /070 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: INQUIRIES CONCERNING U.S. EFFORTS TO FACILITATE
MOVEMENT TO THE U.S.

REF: STATE 74970

1. INQUIRIES CONCERNING THE STATUS OF VIETNAMESE NATIONALS
WISHING TO LEAVE VIETNAM HAVE INCREASED TO THE POINT WHERE
THEY HAVE BECOME A MAJOR PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL FOCUS OF
CONCERN WHICH MUST BE ADDRESSED AS SPECIFICALLY AND
SYMPATHETICALLY AS POSSIBLE.

2. DEPT IS PREPARING PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE AND WOULD
APPRECIATE MISSION'S COMMENTS BY OPENING OF BUSINESS
WASHINGTON TIME APRIL 4:

3. IF ASKED WHAT THE USG WILL DO SHOULD GVN NOT ISSUE PASS-
PORTS TO THOSE WHO WISH TO OBTAIN VISAS OR WHO ARRIVE AT
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PORTS OF ENTRY WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION, DEPT PLANS TO STATE

THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO ADMINISTER US IMMIGRATION LAW IN A WAY TO BE MOST HELPFUL TO THOSE DESIRING ASSISTANCE. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THE GVN HAS ENACTED A GENERAL TRAVEL BAN WE ARE DISCUSSING THESE ISSUES NOW WITH OUR MISSION IN SAIGON WITH A VIEW TO SEEKING GVN PERMISSION FOR THE DEPARTURE OF THOSE WISHING TO DO SO.

4. IF ASKED ABOUT WHAT THE USG WILL DO FOR IMMEDIATE RELATIVES OF US CITIZENS OR RESIDENT ALIENS AS WELL AS USG EMPLOYEES AND THOSE OF US CONCERN, DEPT PLANS TO SAY THAT WE WILL NATURALLY DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE THEIR DEPARTURE FROM VIETNAM SHOULD THIS BECOME NECESSARY.

5. IF ASKED IF THE GVN IS LETTING PEOPLE OUT WE PROPOSE TO SAY THAT WE UNDERSTAND THAT GENERAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT, PARTICULARLY FOR PERSONS OF DRAFT AGE, BUT THAT THESE RESTRICTIONS DO NOT APPLY TO SUCH CATEGORIES AS ORPHANS WHO ARE IN CUSTODY OF VOLAGS AWAITING ADOPTION.

6. IF ASKED ABOUT OTHER ORPHANS AND HOW ONE CAN ADOPT A VIETNAMESE BABY, WE PLAN TO SAY THUS FAR THE INS ARRANGEMENT TO PAROLE UNDOCUMENTED PERSONS INTO THE US EXTENDS ONLY TO CERTAIN ORPHANS, THOSE IN THE CUSTODY OF LICENSED ADOPTION AGENCIES. THESE AGENCIES HAVE LARGE NUMBERS OF FAMILIES ON WAITING LISTS FOR CHILDREN. WE SUGGEST THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ADOPTING A CHILD CONTACT LOCAL OR STATE WELFARE AGENCIES.

7. IF ASKED IF INS WILL EXTEND ITS PAROLE ARRANGEMENTS TO OTHER CATEGORIES OF VIETNAMESE, WE SHALL SAY THAT WE DO NOT KNOW AT THIS TIME. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PASSPORTS, VISITS, IMMIGRATION LAW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE076207
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AFANTIPPAS/EA/VN:RWENGEL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750116-0221
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750483/aaaacyho.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SCA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 74970
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <20 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INQUIRIES CONCERNING U.S. EFFORTS TO FACILITATE MOVEMENT TO THE U.S.
TAGS: AEMR, PINS, VS
To: SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006